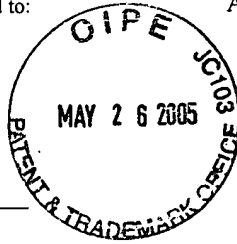


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 020444-000910US

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



On

5/24/05

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Luke V. Schneider

Application No.: 10/696,549

Filed: October 28, 2003

For: METHOD FOR INCREASING  
IONIZATION EFFICIENCY IN MASS  
SPECTROSCOPY

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 7837

Examiner: Nguyen, K.

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2881

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 25, 2005, please enter the following amendments and group election below. A petition for a three-month extension of time accompanies this response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.